

## BRILLIANT INAUGURAL BALL.

ALL THE WORLD DANCED IN AN UP-TO-DATE FAIRYLAND.

The Pension Building Turned Into an Italian Garden—A Wonderful Gathering. With Social Barriers Let Down—Dances to the President.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—The only social function which the nation indulges through formal action by Congress and the Executive was held to-night in the Pension Office building as a topping-off of the strenuous ceremonies and festivities of the day. This was the inaugural ball, to which all the world might come under no other condition than having the necessary tickets of admission.

A ticket cost \$5, and while there was a free list, it was very short. Complimentary admission was restricted to the President, the Vice-President and their wives, the members of the Cabinet, the other persons who composed the Presidential party, the foreign Ambassadors and Ministers and the Justices of the Supreme Court. All the Washington men who worked so hard to make the inauguration a success had to buy their ball tickets. The inaugural ball pays much of the heavy expense connected with the inauguration.

To get to the ball many persons regarded a carriage as necessary and the tariff for a carriage in Washington for this night only was legally fixed at \$10. Hundreds who attended went to the Pension Office in the street cars. Women in beautiful costumes found this means of getting there somewhat inconvenient, but not at all embarrassing, for they had plenty of company. There was some compensation, however, in using a street car instead of a carriage, not alone in the saving of expense, but in another way, for the street car ball goes another way, for the Pension Building without the bother of waiting for an hour or so in the long, slow moving carriage line, and when they wanted to go home, could do so without another long wait.

For twenty years these pretentious social affairs of official endorsement have been held in the big red brick building which was the scene of to-night's festivities. But never before had the preparations been so complete or on so grand a scale. To many who came of the first view of the ballroom was with the price of admission, for fairyland was duplicated in an up-to-date way. The ballroom proper embraced the entire inner court of the building, 300 feet wide. In office rooms on the first floor space was provided for putting wraps away, and in other rooms long supper tables were spread for those who cared to eat at a dollar a head. Then, on the same floor, but out of view of those in the great court, was a well equipped hospital, where everything in the way of aid to the injured was provided from smelling salts to splints for a broken leg. The second floor rooms were sacred to the use of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential parties, the diplomats and the Supreme Court Justices.

### Like an Italian Garden.

A marvellous change had been wrought by the decorators and electricians and florists in the few days that had been given them to turn the bare official looking walls and columns and balconies into fairyland. The whole scheme of decoration was to simulate an Italian garden under the open sky, and the work was carried out with wonderful success. Everywhere electric lamps shimmered, but so well arranged were they, and so artistically reflected, that there was no glare, only a clear steady glow that was pleasing and restful to the eyes. More than 12,000 electric globes had been used in this work. There was a profusion of twining vines, growing plants and cut flowers.

The high roof of the Pension Building is supported by great marble columns, 100 feet or so in diameter. There are eight of them, four near one end of the long court and four near the other end. These were twined with garlands of green, but not otherwise decorated, the idea being to let them stand forth in all their simplicity and gigantic strength.

The inner court has two balconies. An ivory and gold effect had been given to the pillars and arches supporting the first balcony. Between each arch hung a bell of flowers and foliage plants, and in the centre of this bunch of floral brightness and restful natural green was a tiny incandescent lamp. Garlands of green were strung in graceful curves from each floral globe to those on either side, while from the top and between the supporting columns rose clusters of roses, azaleas and growing leaved plants. A continuous plant of pine, fir and laurel hid the balcony railing, and at its base was the principal source of illumination, a double row of incandescent lights reflected from fluted devices of glass.

The balustrade of the second gallery, like that of the one beneath, was a solid wall of pine branches, and from the rail rose a series of sculptured columns of pure white, surmounted each by a ball, upon which was poised an eagle with outstretched wings. These columns were linked with garlands of green and behind each rose a few trees.

Above and behind the yew, baby blue drapery began, and was carried against the wall and across the roof of the court in the semblance of an azure sky. Artistically had the lights been arranged that this blue canopy was merged in partial gloom that made it seem like an overhanging cloud that boded no harm but was a suggestion of a pleasant day in summer.

At the west end of the court, on the second balcony, was the President's box, while far away in the distance opposite was the monster band stand. The President's box was a veritable floral bower. American Beauty roses and orchids were everywhere in profusion. Rising from the floor and reaching up beyond the railing over which the President leaned when he gazed at the scene below, were great branches of the Porto Rican palm, twenty-five feet from end to tip. A great crimson cloth hung from the rail to the floor of the court,

and above the box were five great alien national standards.

The band stand, away down at the other end of the court, was a wonderfully striking structure. Seats for the musicians rose in tiers from the front centre to right and left. Over the stand were six starred and striped flags made into a festoon, and from them drooped, straight down for six feet, a velvet background for a shimmering, gleaming shell made of 4,000 electric lights.

All this is more detail. The general effect was the main consideration of the decorators. They had depicted a scene of wonderful beauty and had managed, with finely balanced judgment, to carry out the idea of the Italian garden. A fountain, rock enclosed, played in the centre of the court, its streams falling over palms and ferns and other growing green things, while from below, down in its depth, hidden colored lamps sent out shimmering gleams that gave the suggestion of moonlight shining on the water.

High above were blue clouds, dimly outlined in the haze that came from the countless gleaming globes, many feet below, whose reflections were downward, throwing all the brightness of the court upon its lower strata. The great palm branches, rising high in the air, brought into pleasing contrast their foreground of roses and orchids. The gloomy first stood straight and regular along the top-most rail. From balcony, cornice and arch and pillar the laurel wreaths were strung. Everywhere there was light, and fragrance, and color, and restful green.

### A Wonderful Gathering.

To this great ballroom there came to-night a wonderful gathering of people. There were Governors of States, each attended by a plentiful staff, whose members were arrayed as the lilies of the field; Generals of the army and Admirals of the navy, each in the uniform of his rank, hundreds more in the plain black of civilian conventionality, and still more hundreds of women whose bare shoulders and arms glistened with jewels.

No stringent social barrier existed in that great throng of pleasure seekers. Women of wealth and fashion, attired in gowns that cost thousands of dollars and bedecked with gems that cost many thousands more, touched elbows with the wives of men whose yearly incomes would not have served to buy one single cluster of diamonds or one Paris creation in silk such as were worn by their more prosperous sisters.

The poor department clerk who had spent his hard earned "V" for a ticket had as good a time in his well worn dress coat as the millionaire staff officer in all his gold lace and military finery. It was a democratic crowd, a thoroughly American crowd, and in for the fun of it. The United States Marine Band of seventy pieces played the marches while a string orchestra furnished the dance music, and, in spite of the crush, space was found for dancing.

### The President a Bit Late.

President Roosevelt was five minutes late in arriving at the Pension Office. He drove over with Gen. Wilson, chairman of the inaugural committee, in the same carriage with the same four horses he had used in the inaugural parade, and the faithful Rough Riders acted as his escort.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt, the Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks, Gen. Wilson and the members of the reception committee formed a line in the order named at the west entrance, and as the band played the national anthem they marched between a double line of ushers and committeemen as far as the fountain in the middle of the court.

Then the party retraced their steps to the west entrance and ascended to the President's private room in the southwest corner of the first balcony. The whole of the Presidential party's appearance on the floors did not occupy more than four minutes.

Those in the balcony caught a fleeting glimpse of the heads of the party as they welked back and forth, half the length of the court, but the spectators on the floor vainly craned necks and stood on the pedestals of the great columns, trying to see more than the part in the President's corner of the first balcony. The whole of the Presidential party's appearance on the floors did not occupy more than four minutes.

The reception in the President's room lasted a little more than half an hour, during which Gov. Higgins and staff, the members of the Diplomatic Corps and the Justices of the Supreme Court, with a number of other distinguished guests, paid their respects.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt and Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks then went to the Presidential box, where their appearance was greeted with a cheer, and the band, which had been playing a medley, switched quickly to "The Red, White and Blue." In the box with the Presidential party were all the Roosevelts and Fairbanks children and Miss Hagner of Washington.

When the applause had subsided, the "march around" was begun. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt, escorted by Gen. John M. Wilson, chairman of the Inaugural Committee, led the way in a circuit of the floor through double rows of the men and women, followed by the Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks. Many others of the Presidential party took part in this parade. When the circuit had been completed, the President and his wife, and those of the official contingent, returned to their private rooms, and, after donning their wraps, left the Pension Building.

Mrs. Roosevelt's American Gown. Every detail of the handsome gown worn by Mrs. Roosevelt met with the closest scrutiny in the march around. The fabric was woven especially for this occasion in a silk factory in Paterson, N. J., and was a copy in texture and color of a sample selected at the St. Louis exposition by Miss Alice Roosevelt from a foreign silk exhibit with the idea that it would be pleasing to Mrs. Roosevelt.

The pattern cannot be duplicated, as that was destroyed as soon as the material was made. The shade is neither dark nor light. It is one that was especially becoming in the evening under the electric lighting which pervaded the ballroom. The pattern showed a flight of doves, the largest of which were about two inches from wing to wing, the others diminishing in size until they were barely discernible to very keen eyes.

A shimmering effect of coloring, shading into silver, was one of the chief attractions of the creation, which was outlined in a delicate vine tracery in silver. It was princess in style and carried out the long lines that Mrs. Roosevelt prefers. The front opened over a petticoat effect of filmy Mechlin lace, the pattern a design of ferns. A bertha of rose point finished the décolleté bodice. A hair ornament of diamonds, fastening an aigrette and a diamond neck lace and pendant were Mrs. Roosevelt's jewels.

Next to Mrs. Roosevelt's gown, Mrs. Fairbanks's came in for close attention.

## HALF OUR ILLS ARE CATARRH.



"Every family should know the important fact that catarrhal diseases, so common in winter or spring, claim 200,000 victims in the United States each year."  
—S. B. HARTMAN, M. D.

It was of white Duchesse satin, brocaded in threads of gold. The design was a rose pattern in natural size, the flower and blossoms being scattered over the rich satin. The skirt opened over a petticoat effect of fine lace frills, which were cascaded from the opening of the bodice to the foot of the gown. The design of the lace was a combination of marguerites and ribbon bows. This novel design formed the sleeves. A wide bertha of point applique falling over the shoulders narrowed to the waist line. A diamond necklace rope of pearls and a tala of gold studded with diamonds were worn with this.

Miss Alice Roosevelt's ball gown was of white satin and cloth of gold. The waist was of white satin, forming a very small zouave in front with a deep pointed bodice of cloth of gold, princess back forming long coat tails about to the bottom of the train. The edges of the coat and zouave were finished in gold embroidery. The inside of zouave and coat tails were lined with pink roses, which gave a beautiful effect, as it showed on the side of the skirt. The top of the waist was finished with a collar effect of gold embroidery, very fine and most effective. The skirt of this gown was of cloth of gold foundation with full real net drapery, embroidered with hands of gold.

Mrs. John Timmons, daughter of Vice-President and Mrs. Fairbanks, and the wife of a Lieutenant in the navy, wore a beautiful rose colored silk, which fitted her slender figure to perfection, with a long circular skirt and a low cut bodice, the point of the upper part of which was filled in with chiffon of the same shade and with lace. The high puffed sleeves were edged with lace, and a shoulder trimming of pink roses and buds were her only ornaments.

Mrs. Warren Fairbanks, daughter-in-law of the Vice-President, also wore a rose colored silk made in an almost similar fashion.

Some exceedingly handsome gowns were worn by the ladies of the Cabinet circle, that of Mrs. Shaw, wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, being of heavy white satin brocaded with a rose pattern. Mrs. Taft, wife of the Secretary of War, wore a very handsome gown of cream lace over white chiffon and silk. Pearls and diamonds were worn as ornaments.

Mrs. Wynne, wife of the Postmaster-General, wore a most effective gown of white crêpe de chine, with hand embroidered flowers scattered over it.

Mrs. Morton, wife of the Secretary of the Navy, had a notably handsome gown of silver brocade. Conventional roses appeared on a white satin gown, with small French roses of silver interspersed. Diamonds and pearls formed the necklace and hair ornaments.

Mrs. Hitchcock, wife of the Secretary of the Interior, wore a white satin brocade made in the simple style that characterizes her gowns. Mrs. Metcalfe, wife of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, was seen in one of the most effective gowns of the evening. It was a pompadour veil of pale blue silk veiled in white chiffon, with a draped overskirt of silk and a wattleu pleat falling from the centre of the back.

Your Doctor is very wise when he says: "If you can get a PURE whiskey, a little of it will assist poor weakened nature."  
**John Jameson**  
Three Stars  
**Irish Whiskey**  
is the World's standard for PURITY—never deteriorates.

## B. Altman & Co.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, STORE WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL SIX O'CLOCK P. M.

### WOMEN'S DRESSES of Linen and Cotton Fabrics.

Women's Summer Dresses in effective models, among which are Imported Gowns and reproductions of them, made in the establishment, are shown in a wide range of Cotton fabrics.

And a variety of attractive designs in Coat Suits, including Linen Suits with Coats of English Embroidery; Bolero Suits of Hand-embroidered Linen; Redingote Suits of White and Colored Linen and Cape Suits of Linen, elaborately trimmed with lace and applique, are displayed.

Also Separate Skirts of Linen and various Cotton Fabrics.

### GOWNS and TAILOR SUITS. (Second Floor.)

Advance styles in Gowns and Tailor Suits are now in readiness, comprising the newest effects in Gowns of Chiffon Taffeta, Messaline, Checked Silk, Natural Pongee, Rajah Silk, Crêpe de Chine, Nets, Laces and Fancy Veilings; and Tailor Suits of Cloth and Silk.

On TUESDAY, March Seventh,

the following will be placed on sale at Special Prices:

GOWNS of Peau de Cygne Silk, in dark and light shades, suitable for Street and Evening wear; lined throughout with silk, \$50.00

TAILOR SUITS of Black and Colored Broadcloth, with Eton Coat and Walking Length Circular Skirt, and lined throughout with silk, \$32.00

SEPARATE SKIRTS of Black Broadcloth, circular model, \$15.00

### SALE OF COLORED DRESS GOODS.

On Monday and Tuesday, March Sixth and Seventh.

Several Thousand Yards of Imported Nun's Veiling in Street and Evening shades, the regular price of which is \$1.00 per yard, will be offered at

(Rear of Rotunda, First Floor.) 55c. per Yard.

### FINE LACES.

Matched Series of double and single width Drapery Nets, Edges and Insertions are offered, among which are Pompadour, Irish Point, Point Gaze, Boule de Neige and Valenciennes Laces, etc., especially adapted for the making of entire gowns.

Beginning TUESDAY, March Seventh,

2,000 dozen yards of a superior quality of Valenciennes Edges and Insertings, ranging heretofore from \$3.00 to \$9.00 per dozen yards, will be placed on sale at

ONE-HALF THE REGULAR PRICES.

(Sold only in lengths of one dozen yards, rear of Rotunda, First Floor.)

### DRESS GARNITURES.

Dress Garnitures are now shown in styles appropriate for the trimming of Spring and Summer Gowns, including Hand-embroidered Vests of Colored and White Linen with cuffs to match, Embroidered Collarettes; Spangled Berthas and Jackets, also Buttons in miniature, Pompadour and jewelled effects.

### A SALE WILL BE HELD

TO-MORROW (MONDAY), MARCH SIXTH,

at which Colored Embroidered Applique, Bands and Motifs of Persian Embroidered Linen, Black Spangled Bands and Passementeries, and Black and White Chiffon Applique, ranging in price from \$1.50 to \$3.50 per yard, will be offered at

65c., 90c. and \$1.45 per Yard.

(Counters Rear of Rotunda on First Floor.)

Fourteenth Street and Sixth Avenue, New York.

## B. Altman & Co.

Until further notice, store will remain open until Six o'clock P. M.

B. Altman & Co. announce that, at an IMPORTANT SALE to be held on MONDAY and TUESDAY, March 6th and 7th, they will offer a collection of

### UNUSUALLY FINE

LACE WINDOW DRAPERIES and LACE BED SETS, LACE BUREAU COVERS, SCARFS, ETC.,

AT

REMARKABLE REDUCTIONS IN PRICES,

comprising:

CURTAINS OF FILET ITALIEN LACE, formerly \$285.00 to \$750.00, at \$150.00, \$250.00 and \$350.00 per Pair.

DROP CURTAINS OF FILET ITALIEN LACE, formerly \$275.00 to \$350.00 at \$125.00 to \$150.00 each.

'BONNE FEMME' CURTAINS OF FILET ITALIEN LACE, formerly \$65.00 to \$350.00, at \$35.00, \$45.00, \$75.00 to \$125.00 each.

BED SPREADS OF FILET ITALIEN LACE, formerly \$250.00 and \$450.00, at \$125.00 and \$250.00 each.

POINT ARABE LACE CURTAINS, formerly \$65.00 to \$165.00, at \$38.00 to \$75.00 per pair.

POINT ARABE LACE BED SETS, formerly \$65.00, at \$38.00 per set.

Also Filet Italien Bureau Covers, Scarfs, etc., at corresponding reductions.

Upholstery Department, Third Floor.

## Nest Tables

Scatter them about in different rooms if you wish—you always know that you can tuck away the small or underneath the larger, if pressed for room. Used for Teas, Card Parties, etc. We have many styles—all at moderate prices.

**Schmitt Brothers,**  
40 East 23d St.